

any one. Choose not evil. Hold the rod of chastisement in the hand; and use it against yourself. Be not elated at thought of body and possession; walk not the way of destruction, consort not with the wicked; fall not, fall not. Do not practise deceit and earn wages of sin; remember God, remember. Trust not property; waste not time. Do not talk evil of others and take a place in hell. Take not a place in hell. Forget not your true nature, keep your desire within limits. And forget not the beautiful and eternal Lord. Forget Him not.

Kanakadasa asks people in another song to enlist in God's service, get free of the bonds of life, and be unique. This body is not you and not yours. Desire is not proper and not eternal ; it will not endure. Go not into the sea of desire, anxiety and sin; be not caught in the bonds of death. Rid yourself of sin, attain bliss. He says pilgrimages are of no use and the sacred rivers are no more sacred than we who bathe in them make of life. Kasi (Benares), Kanchi, Rameswara—what is the use of going to these and other places, what do you gain there? What good comes of living beside the sacred rivers Krishnaveni, Ganga, Godavari and Thungabhadra and fasting and bathing in them with devotion and performing ceremony and fulfilling vow? Why this

exertion? Get
near to the soul of all being which is
within: experi-
ence good and get real release. Get
strong. As
Basavanna and Purandara said this
teacher also said
that purity was something within. A man
bows a
"hundred times and plunges into water; yet
turns his
eyes to women and makes his mind
prisoner to them.